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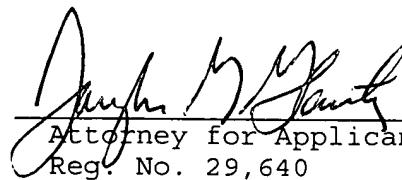
U.S. Serial No. 10/010,869
Filed December 7, 2001

preferred Contact Intimacy Ratio transport and preferred liquid retention. In one aspect, the bonding agent includes polyhydroxyalkanoate or poly(lactic)acid. In one aspect, a wet geometric mean breaking length is at least 5 meters, a dry geometric mean breaking length is at least 50 meters, a vertical liquid flux rate at a height of about 5 centimeters is at least about 0.4 grams of liquid per minute, a wicking time is less than about 3.5 minutes, and a basis weight is greater than 100 and less than 300 grams per square meter.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the Abstract by the current Amendment. The attached pages are captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Reconsideration of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 29,640

May 7, 2002

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